Amendment and Response

Scrial No.: 09/827,107 Confirmation No.: 5006 Filed: 5 April 2001

For: SOLID PHASE SYNTHESIS SUPPORTS AND METHODS

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Remarks

The Office Action mailed 28 January 2004 has been received and reviewed. Claims 32, 33, 37, and 41 having been amended, and claims 1-31 and 64 having been cancelled, the pending claims are claims 32-63 and 65-66. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for notification to the effect that claims 42-63, 65, and 66 have been allowed.

Claim Objections

Applicants note that claims 32-41 have been marked as objected to by Examiner Lukton. However, the Office Action did not provide an explanation for the claim objection. It is assumed that this is because they depended from rejected claim 31. Accordingly, the language of claim 31 has been incorporated into each of claims 32, 33, 37, and 41. Claims 34-36 and 38-40 depend from one of these amended claims.

The 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 31 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Boor (U.S. Patent No. 3,730,922). Applicants have cancelled claims 31 and 64, which renders this rejection moot. This has been done to expedite examination and is not meant to indicate agreement with the rejection. Applicants reserve the right to present these claims in a continuing application.

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Summary

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims 32-63 and 65-66 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for RASMUSSEN et al.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:

1 5,2004

The undersigned hereby certifies that the Transmittal Letter and the paper(s), as described hereinabove, are being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 5^{-1} day of April, 2004, at 5^{-1} (Central Time).

By: Kachel Caston de Goden